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NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

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INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE DEPARTMENT
(MINES.II)

STAR RATING FOR MINOR MINERALS FOR ALL THE QUARRY LEASES FOR 31 MINOR MINERALS AND GRANITE & MARBLE.

[G.O.Ms.No.33, Industries & Commerce (Mines.II), 7th February, 2019.]

NOTIFICATION

"Star Rating of Minor Mineral leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble:

A 'Star Rating' will be awarded to the Minor Mineral leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble for their efforts and initiatives taken for implementation of the Sustainable Development Framework (SDF). One to five stars would be given to the Quarry Leases. The best performing Quarry leases would be given 5 Stars. The star rating scheme is designed to have a built in compliance mechanism for environment and forest safeguards and will help in recognizing good performers in the sector while encouraging all Quarry lease holders to strive for excellence. The platform would not only encourage sharing of best practices but would also incentivize the adoption of best practices. The rating system in future may be useful in obtaining faster clearances from various regulatory bodies.

The 'Star Rating' will be started initially for the Minor Mineral leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble. The quarry leases which have been operational for more than 180 days in the year of reporting would be eligible for star rating.

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The evaluation template has been designed for the assessment of the Sustainable Development Framework (SDF) implementation in the quarry lease based on the following parameters-

- (a) The management of impact by carrying out scientific and efficient quarrying.
- (b) addressing social impacts of our resettlement and rehabilitation requirements for taking up Quarrying activities.
- (c) Local community engagements and welfare programmes.
- (d) Steps taken for progressive and final mine enclosure.
- (e) Adoption of National standards.

A web portal for online filling up the evaluation template is developed by Department of Mines & Geology for Star Rating of Minor Minerals leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble enabled in the Department of Mines & Geology web portal and provide the access to the Assistant Directors of Mines & Geology. The lessees will have to fill up a self-assessment form (<http://125.21.85.32/CitizenPortal/UserInterface/Citizen/CitizenHomePage.aspx> -> Star Ratings). Based on the self-assessment and subsequent evaluation by concerned Assistant Directors of Mines & Geology, a rating from One to Five stars would be given to the quarries, with Five stars being allotted to the best performing mines.

The process of online filing of Star Rating of Minor Minerals leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules, 1966, Granite and Marble template will be in place upon notification by the State Government and the quarry lease holders will be required to fill up the evaluation template for star rating for the Reporting Year of 2017-18, on self-certification basis. The lessees would fill up the evaluation template on the portal and on that basis a provisional 'Star Rating' would be awarded to the Quarry lease.

The confirmation of star rating would be given upon the due verification by the concerned Assistant Directors of Mines & Geology who shall evaluate a percentage of the total working leases falling within his respective office jurisdiction. The quarry leases for 31 Minor Minerals shown at Sl.No. 18 to 48 in Schedule-I under Rule 10 of Andhra Pradesh Minor Minerals Concessions Rules 1966, Granite and Marble would be awarded in their category large (more than 5 Hectares), medium (2 to 5 Hectares) and small (Less than 2 Hectares) on the basis of the star rating evaluation."

The Director of Mines and Geology, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada shall take necessary action accordingly.

B. SREEDHAR,

Secretary to Government.